

Remarks

Reconsideration and allowance of this application are respectfully requested.

Applicants acknowledge with gratitude the personal interview conducted with Examiner Kim at the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on June 30, 2009. During the interview Applicants' representative first reviewed instant claim 1 and summarized the legal arguments for patentability that were made in the Amendment Under 37 CFR § 1.116 filed June 24, 2009. Applicants urged that the disclosure of U.S. Patent No. 5,128,048 to Stewart et al. ("Stewart") does not anticipate Applicants' presently claimed invention.

The examiner indicated that in view of the amendment of claim 1, the rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) based on Stewart had been overcome. The examiner indicated that "[a]mended claim 1 will be further studied."

Applicants also noted that, as explained in the Amendment, the sole drawing figure fully complies with the provisions of 37 CFR § 1.84(u)(1). In fact, *no legend is allowed* because § 1.84(u)(1) requires that "[w]here only a single view is used in an application to illustrate the claimed invention, it must not be numbered and the abbreviation 'FIG.' *must not appear*" (emphasis added). The examiner took the position that while the abbreviation "FIG." should not appear, the provisions of

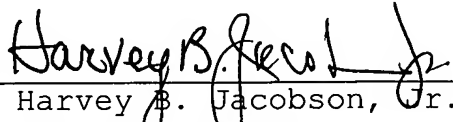
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Atty. Docket No.: P70454US0

§ 1.84(u)(1) mean that the word "Figure" must appear. Applicants respectfully disagreed with the examiner's position.

Early action on the merits is respectfully requested. If the examiner believes that another interview might expedite prosecution, the examiner is invited to contact the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted,

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